I am asking that the Planning Commission send the City sign back for reconsideration. San Luis is a small city with small houses, especially in this old area. This sign is so huge, it would dwarf everything around it, and make the City appear to have a Freudian problem. If it were placed in the wilderness along the freeway, it may make some sense, but it will be placed by traffic lights, across from the much smaller Cal Poly sign, and across from the faculty housing. Cars either stop when the lights are red, or slow down because the city clearly starts there. I fail to understand this waste of money and this need for a super sign.

Furthermore—and this makes me very angry—the city never finished the sidewalk on this piece of property (see my photographs). They are going to spend a quarter of a million dollars for a sign that nobody needs, but they say they don't have the money to finish the sidewalk. This is an area where dozens of students walk to Cal Poly every day. The rain is supposed to start this year, and it's impossible to cut through the muddy land when it rains. Therefore students and faculty will again have to walk among cars to get to Highland Drive. The City has its priorities upside down. They should care more about people's safety, build a smaller sign, and use the rest of the money to finish the sidewalk.

PLANNING COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM:\_

DO NOT REMOVE FROM FILE

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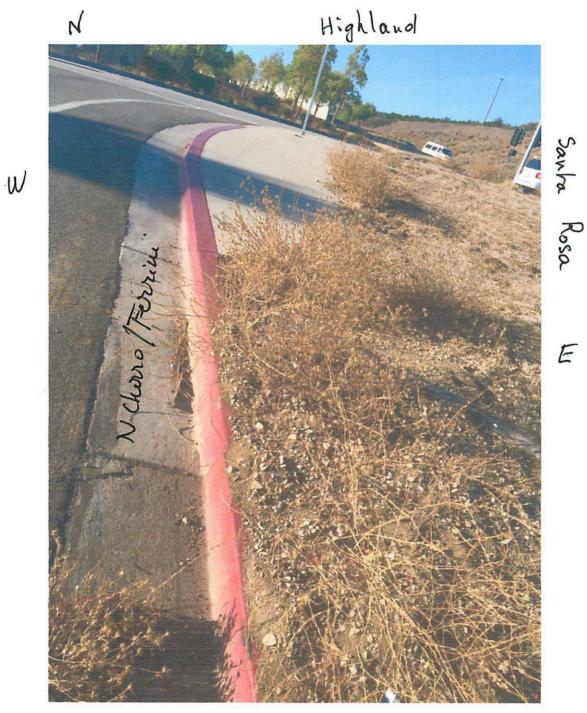


PLANNING COMMISSION

AGENDA DEM:

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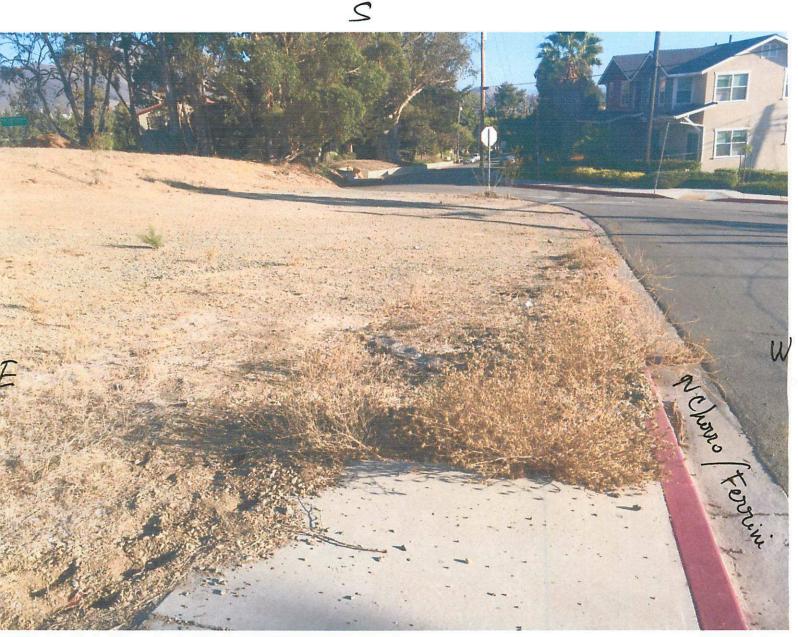
## Where the Siolewalk Ends (i)



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## Where the Sidewalk Ends (2)



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#9

## CHARLES CROTSER Architect, A.I.A.

P.O. Box 12528 . . . San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

Phone/Messages: (805)471-5967; e-mail: ccrotser@gmail.com

PLANNING COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM:\_ DATE:\_\_\_\_\_

October 22, 2015

Honorable County Planning Commissioners,

DO NOT REMOVE FROM FILE

When I saw the original illustration of the proposed entry sign at the intersection of Highway 1 and Highland Drive, my initial reaction was that it was very attractive and certainly of appropriate character. However seeing the dimensions of this sign, I was stunned. This sign is extremely large and well out of scale for this location. It may certainly be appropriate for placement on Highway 101 where freeway speeds, and higher traffic volumes justify larger graphic elements. However, this location is at an intersection where traffic either slows or stops as vehicles crest the hill entering the City. There is absolutely no need for such a massive sign element at this location.

By comparison, the entry sign for Cal Poly across the street is approximately 4 feet tall and nestled into the hill and seems to be an adequately large sign for the University. The Cal Poly sign is extremely visible while being at a much lower elevation than the proposed SLO sign. Another comparison would be the very nice Paso Robles monument signs (by the same designer), which are placed at multiple freeway and highway locations at the entry to the City. These signs are roughly half the size of the proposed sign. (Refer to attached illustration)

I've attached an illustration of the proposed sign from the Tribune, some months ago, with a male figure to give a better sense of scale. I also show an image of my modest home in the Foothill area, just a few blocks away, which is typical of most of the one-story houses in this neighborhood. I've scaled the images based upon the dimensions noted in the Tribune article and in your staff report. Does this sign really need to be as big as a house?

I respectfully request that you re-consider the size and scale of this sign at this location. Although this is a very attractive "sign", it is much too large. Now would be the time to re-consider the size and resultant expense before any more time is spent on construction documents or final cost estimates.

Thank you very much for your consideration,

Charles Crotser, AIA Architect ccrotser@gmail.com

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(805) 471-5967 (cell)

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Proposed Entry Sign at Highland and Highway 1 (with 6' tall figure)

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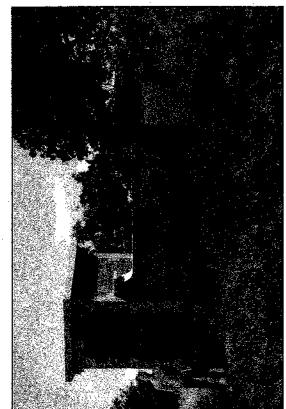


Scale Comparison

GROUND LEVEI



Proposed Entry Sign at Highland and Highway 1 (with 6' tall figure)



Paso Robles entry monument sign (with 6' tall figure)

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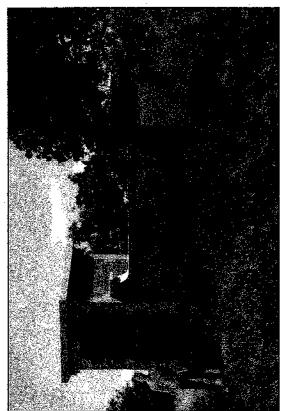


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